

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

EB-07 DHA-02 OIC-02 /115 W
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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8940

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

UNCLAS USUN 3517

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, UN, UNSC, WA, SF, XA

SUBJ: UNSC MEETS ON NAMIBIA

1. SUMMARY: IN CONSULTATIONS BEFORE UNSC MEETING ON NAMIBIA ON AUGUST 31, DECISION ON ALLOWING CHIEF KAPUUNO TO SPEAK WAS POSTPONED AND LIBYANS, AS SEPTEMBER SC PRESIDENT, ANNOUNCED THAT THEY INTEND TO BEGIN SUBSTANTIVE SC NAMIBIA DEBATE ON SEPTEMBER 22. IN MEETING, MADAGASCAR CHARGE STATED THAT CURRENT DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES TO FIND A SETTLEMENT IN NAMIBIA ARE AS FUTILE AS THEY ARE DESPARATE. HE CALLED FOR FREE ELECTIONS UNDER UN SUPERVISION AND CONTROL AND FOR CHAPTER VII SANCTIONS TO BE PLACED ON SOUTH AFRICA.

2. IN CONSULTATIONS PRIOR TO THE SC MEETING ON NAMIBIA

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ON AUG 31, TANZANIAN PERMREP SALIM SAID THAT THERE WOULD

BE OPPOSITION TO A SPEECH BY CHIEF KAPUUO AND SUGGESTED THAT THE COUNCIL POSTPONE A DECISION UNTIL MORE DISCUSSIONS CAN BE HELD. THE COUNCIL MEMBERS AGREED. LIBYAN PERM REP KIKHIA, PRESIDENT OF THE SC FOR SEPTEMBER, STATED THAT HE PLANNED TO BEGIN SUBSTANTIVE MEETINGS ON NAMIBIA ON SEPTEMBER 22.

3. MADAGASCAR CHARGE RASOLONDRABE, PRESIDENT OF THE AFRICAN GROUP FOR AUGUST, WAS ONLY SPEAKER IN MEETING. HE STATED THAT THE PEOPLE OF AFRICA WERE IN SOLIDARITY WITH THE NAMIBIAN PEOPLE AND THE FREEDOM FIGHTERS OF SWAPO IN THEIR STRUGGLE WHICH HE CHARACTERIZED AS PART OF THE BROADER BATTLE FOR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS IN AFRICA. HE CHARGED THAT THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT ONLY SUCCEEDS IN ITS REPRESSIVE POLICIES BECAUSE OF ITS BARGAINING POWER WITH ITS WESTERN ALLIES. HE SAID THAT THE SAG EXPLOITS THE GREED OF IMPERIALIST AND NEOCOLONIALIST NATIONS WHICH HAVE GREAT NEED FOR SOUTH AFRICA'S RAW MATERIALS. RASOLONDRABE FURTHER STATED THAT CURRENT DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES BY THESE WESTERN STATES ARE AS FUTILE AS THEY ARE DESPARATE. HE CALLED SUCH DIPLOMACY AN EXAMPLE OF "GRADUALISM."

4. RASOLONDRABE TOLD THE SC THAT THERE ARE CURRENTLY 50,000 SAG TROOPS IN NAMIBIA. HE STATED THAT THE SAG HOPES TO BE MORE SUCCESSFUL THERE THAN OTHERS WERE IN "THE JUNGLES OF VIETNAM." HE REMINDED THE SC THAT THE UN COUNCIL FOR NAMIBIA REJECTED THE AUGUST 18 PROPOSALS EMANATING FROM THE WINDHOEK CONFERENCE AND HAD LABELED THEM AS "DEVOID OF ANY LEGALITY." HE CONCLUDED BY TELLING THE SECURITY COUNCIL THAT THE AFRICAN GROUP WANTED: 1) FREE ELECTIONS FOR NAMIBIA UNDER UN SUPERVISION AND CONTROL, AND 2) SANCTIONS TO BE APPLIED AGAINST THE SAG UNDER CHAPTER VII OF THE UN CHARTER IN THE CONTEXT OF NAMIBIA, RHODESIA, AND APARTHEID.

5. AFTER FINISHING HIS SPEECH, RASOLONDRABE READ A CABLE FROM SAM NUJOMA, PRESIDENT OF SWAPO, IN WHICH HE STATED THAT HE WAS WILLING TO ACCEPT THE POSTPONEMENT OF THE SC DEBATE ON NAMIBIA UNTIL MID-SEPTEMBER WHEN THE AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTERS ATTENDING THE UNGA WILL BE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE.

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